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social hassles and psychological distress symptoms in people living in crowded households than in people living in uncrowded households. This effect appears to be mediated by diminished environmental control in people coping with chronic crowding. Additional psychological and biological costs of coping with multiple stressors will also be discussed.

471.5

Children's social, physical, and emotional adjustments to crowding

Evans G.W.(1), Lepore S.J.(2), Shejwal B.(3), & Palsane M.N.(3)

(1) Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, USA; (2) Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA; (3) University of Poona, Pune, India

The multiple impacts of residential crowding are examined among a sample of elementary school-aged children in urban India. After controlling for income, crowding is positively related to children's social withdrawal, diminished social support, poorer social and emotional adjustment, and motivational deficits. Resting blood pressure is also elevated among crowded children when tested under uncrowded, quiet conditions. Crowding itself, as well as strategies for coping with crowding, are discussed as mechanisms for these effects.

472 SYM

New directions in prejudice and discrimination

Convener: D.M. Taylor

472.0

New directions in prejudice and discrimination

Taylor D.M.

McGill University, Montréal, Québec, Canada

This international panel explores the social psychological processes associated with intergroup contact with a special focus on discrimination. The unique theme that arises from the presentations is the extent to which the field has moved beyond a descriptive analysis of ethnocentrism. New, more subtle processes are addressed including the role of anxiety, the biased adversary effect, militancy, perceptions of legitimacy, tokenism and the minimization of discrimination. Taken together, the presentations suggest new directions for theory and research which should provide a richer understanding of social discrimination.

472.1

Predictors of militancy among women

Dion K.L.(1), Kawakami K.L. (2)

(1) University of Toronto, Ontario, Canada; (2) Catholic University of Nijmegen, The Netherlands

Relative deprivation (RD) and discrimination theories both try to predict why oppressed individuals may develop militant attitudes. They were tested by having women at the University of Toronto complete measures of relative deprivation, perceived discrimination, and their anticipated correlates. As predicted, perceived discrimination was the most consistent and powerful predictor, relating positively to militancy, feminism, and support for affirmative action but negatively to satisfaction, sense of control, and belief in a just world. Affective, collectivistic RD also related positively to militancy and feminism. By contrast, individualistic and cognitive, collectivistic RD were poor predictors. Implications will be discussed.

472.2

The role of anxiety in intergroup contact

Brown R.

University of Kent, Canterbury, UK

In two studies involving contact between different nationalities, the role of anxiety in moderating the effects of intergroup contact was examined. In one, an experimental study, measured anxiety was associated with heightened group salience and also led to less favourable intergroup attitudes. In a subsequent field study, involving a heterogeneous sample of the general public, similar results were obtained: generally, most favourable effects of contact were found with respondents reporting lower levels of intergroup anxiety. It is concluded that future research would do well to incorporate affective variables into its designs.

472.3

Legitimacy appraisals and reactions to disadvantage

Major B.

University of California at Santa Barbara, USA

This talk will address the role of legitimacy appraisals in psychological responses to membership in a disadvantaged group. Legitimacy appraisals are proposed to be a key determinant of processes of attribution, social comparison, and psychological identification. Individuals who appraise systems as legitimate are more likely to attribute outcomes to internal causes, make in-group comparisons, and identify with domains in which they are disadvantaged. Individuals who appraise distributive systems as illegitimate, in contrast, are more likely to attribute outcomes to external causes, make out-group comparisons, and disidentify from domains in which they are disadvantaged.

These processes, in turn, have important consequences for self-esteem and behavior.

472.4

Intergroup assumptions: A basis for intergroup discrimination

Abrams D.

University of Kent, Canterbury, UK

Many approaches to researching intergroup discrimination focus on individuals' motivational and cognitive biases to provide an explanation for ingroup favouritism and discrimination. However, relatively little research concerns group members' assumptions about the psychological processes people attribute to outgroups in intergroup contexts. A series of experiments is reported demonstrating that people's perceptions of outgroups may be based on a widespread presumption that outgroups will be self-favouring (a Biased Adversary effect), but that the same presumption may not appear to be made with regard to ingroup members. Shifts in contextual information appear capable of reducing the BAD effect, thus promoting intergroup harmony.

472.5

Discrimination in the nineties: An invisible evil

Taylor D.M.(1), Wright S.C.(2), & Ruggiero K.M.(1)

(1) McGill University, Montréal, Québec, Canada; (2) University of California at Santa Cruz, USA

Recent surveys, widespread affirmative action programs, and the recent insistence on political correctness, all point to a society that is ridding itself of racial, ethnic and gender discrimination. Two programs of research are described that belie this conclusion. The first addresses the practice of "tokenism" as a subtle but effective form of discrimination. The second challenges current theorizing by suggesting that victims of discrimination systematically "minimize" the discrimination that is directed at them.

473 IPS

Lip reading

Convener: J. Rönnerberg

473.1

Classifying lip shape from faces:

Localization of function

Campbell R.

University of London, UK

New neuropsychological evidence is presented that indicates the critical importance of posterior left-temporal structures for silent speechreading, and the predominance of the perception of visual form rather than directional motion for this task. Findings with normal sub-